

# **Montana Newsletter**

*Montana State Library*

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# News

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# UPDATE

Montana State Library

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August 1992

Update No. 27

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HELENA, MONTANA 59620

**Special legislative session news:** the State Library sustained additional cuts of \$30,030 to its operating budget during the session ending July 18. The \$200,000 in interlibrary loan reimbursement was restored after being cut by a subcommittee. Although Governor Stephens' budget proposed cutting \$13,870 from the agency's budget, the Legislature went beyond this. An additional 4% across-the-board cut in personal services imposed on all state agencies will mean a loss of \$16,160 to the State Library. State Librarian Richard Miller expressed dismay at the cuts, noting the agency had sustained a 12% cut overall in addition to the of underfunding of the pay plan by the 1991 legislature, resulting in total cuts of \$82,643.

**Partly Billings Children's Librarian Gaye Walter is helping to develop a multimedia resource package** for use by Head Start agencies and libraries. Walter was in Washington, D.C. July 13-15 at the Library of Congress to meet with Head Start, family literacy specialists, representatives of ALA's Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) and other children's librarians. The project is jointly sponsored by the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress and the Head Start program at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The project's materials and training strategies are to be used in fiscal 1993 by three states and coordinated through their centers for the book.

**State Library announces LaserCat training and LSCA Long Range Program hearing schedule:** The State Library will conduct LaserCat training in three locations. Each training session will be preceded by a hearing on Montana's LSCA Long Range Program. The dates and locations are: September 15-16, Miles City Public Library; September 17-18, Lewistown City Library, September 29-30, Missoula Public Library. The hearing begins at 9:00 A.M. at each location and lasts approximately 1 1/2 hours. LaserCat training follows the hearing for the remainder of the day, and UltraCard Marc training will be held from 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P. M. on the second day. Libraries should register to attend one of the sessions by calling Library Development (444-5349) at the State Library. There will be a maximum of 30 people for each session. The Long Range Program hearing is open to the public, and librarians are encouraged to invite the public to participate.

**The Blue Bear Group of Denver is currently in Montana conducting visits to libraries and holding focus group meetings as part of the Federation Study process.** All libraries should have received a copy of a questionnaire to complete regarding the federations , and the Group has also encouraged libraries to write to them about any concerns and comments regarding federations in Montana. Sylvia Hall, President of the Blue Bear Group and Research Associate Clarence Coffindaffer will culminate their July-August visits by attending the Federation Coordinator and State Library Commission meetings in Helena on August 17 & 18.

**LSCA Title II application packages were mailed to all public libraries August 7.** Libraries are reminded that LSCA Title II funds are for construction or remodeling of public libraries. December 4, 1992, is the deadline for submitting an application. Questions about the Title II grant process should be addressed to Bob Cooper at the State Library, 444-5350.

**Broadwater County Library, Townsend, was closed from July 20- July 31 due to budget restraints.** The library opened for business again on Saturday, August 1.

**Livingston Public Library won first place and \$200 in a Fourth of July parade with its "Dragon Tales" float.**

AUGUST

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August	12-15	Pacific Northwest Library Association Annual Conference, Bellevue, WA	State Library Association Meeting, Helena	Federation Coordinator meeting, Helena	State Library Commission meeting, Helena (date change)	18	September	Library Card Sign-up Month	Center for the Book Steering Committee, Helena	Library Information and Technology Association National Conference, Denver	Banned Books Week	27-Oct. 3
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The following meetings and events are scheduled for AUGUST/SEPTEMBER:

Personnel changes: Jim Jordanow has announced his resignation as Director of the Glasgow Public Library effective August 14. Barbara Weiss has resigned as Director of the Fallon County Library, Baker.

Librarians have been asked to participate in the Board of Public Education's process to define a "basic system of secondary and elementary schools". Lorrie Monrode-Holt, Library Specialist from the Office of Public Instruction, addressed the Board at their invitation on August 4. State Librarian Richard Miller testified at the public hearing in Helena, August 5. A second public hearing will be held in Glendive on August 11.

Due to Cathy Siegmund's departure from the State Library and budget constraints, the public library matation activities of the State Library are currently being restructured. The State Library will no longer publish a monthly newsletter, but will instead switch to a quarterly or twice-yearly publication. Library Development

Cathy Siegmund, Publicity/Youth Services Specialist for the State Library since 1989, has left to take a position as Information Officer for the State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. She will miss her friends and colleagues in the library community and wishes them well in their ongoing tasks of serving patrons and helping to preserve intellectual freedom for Montana's readers.

Upcoming conferences: "Planning User Services," September 11, Iowa City, IA; call Ethel Blodsch, 319-335-5707; Literacy in Context (LINC), sponsored by Wider Opportunities for Women and South Seattlite Community College, September 18 & 19, Seattle; call Alden Lancaster, 202-638-3143. University of Iowa's 24th annual Festival of Books for Young People, Saturday, November 7, Iowa City; call 319-335-5707.